



**Delaware Bicycle Council  
February 4, 2004  
DelDOT Administration Building  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present**

Fred Breukelman, Dept. of Public Health Representative  
Don Carbaugh, Chair and New Castle County Representative  
Thomas Hartley, Kent Co. Representative  
George Heberling, DE State Police Representative  
Harry Isaacs, Council on Transportation  
Danna Levy, Council on Greenways & Trails Representative  
Laura Madara, DNREC Representative  
Lisa Moore, Office of Highway Safety Representative  
Tim Plemmons, At-large Representative  
Calvin Weber, DelDOT Representative  
Amy Wilburn, At-large Representative

**DelDOT Support Staff Present**

B. David Petrosky, Project Planner  
Wendy Bernard, Administrative Assistant

**Members Absent**

Judi Jeffers, At-Large Representative  
Paul Stevenson, NCC Representative  
Timothy Willard, Sussex County Representative

**DelDOT Members Absent**

Fritz Schranck, Deputy Attorney General, DelDOT  
Joseph Cantalupo, Assistant Director, Division of Planning

**The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**Council Membership Update**

Don C. informed the Council that there were two new members to the Council present, Harry Isaacs representing the Council on Transportation and Tom Hartley as a Kent County representative. Mr. Hartley introduced himself and told the group he used to be on the Council a few years ago, was actually the DBC Chair. He's happy to be back and is still actively bicycling. Mr. Isaacs is also happy to be part of the

Council although he doesn't cycle much himself. The Council members then went around the table and introduced themselves to the new members.

In other membership news, Don informed the Council that Janet Arns (Ray) was to be replaced by Nick Vacirca for the Dept. of Education seat.

Don C. commented that this was the first time in a while that the council was up to full strength.

## II. Old Business

### Newsletter

Don C. would like to have another issue of the newsletter printed by the end of April to have in time for Bike Month in May. Don asked if anyone had any articles to please submit them to him. He asked Lisa M. if she could write something about Sussex County, she said she would. He then asked if Bud could write something pertaining to safety issues. Tim P. also said he could submit an article. Laura M will also write an article relating to the state parks. Don then asked Dave P if DelDOT could supply any articles, especially since there were so many studies and projects taking place, it would be good to get people up to date. Dave said he could probably supply a page worth.

Don mentioned that it has been almost a year since the last newsletter so this one should have some good information. Please have your articles to him no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Website

Don informed the Council that Donna Walton from DelDOT's Office of Information and Technology retired and the DBC's website was now going to be handled by Phyllis Adams. All updates to the website still need to be sent to him and he will forward them on.

### DelDOT Updates

Dave P. was attending the meeting for Joe Cantalupo and updated the Council on several projects:

- Bicycle Facility Master Plan: The plan is in the beginning stages right now and is looking for input if anyone has any. The first part of this project is to hopefully expand Bike Route 1 with another north/south trunk line then have 1 or 2 east/west lines. The second objective is to create a bike facility guide with functional classifications for different types of roads.
- Plan reviews are still being done by Joe Cantalupo, Anthony Aglio, Dan Rose, Bobbie Geier and Dave P, but now Joe has divided the responsibilities by county. So, Dave P oversees the New Castle County plans, Dan Rose does the Kent Co. and Anthony Aglio will do the Sussex Co. plans.
- Work on the Rail/Trail study will hopefully be up and coming

Tim P asked if the bicycle network would include off-trail as well. Dave replied that it would mostly be on road facilities or possibly off-road that is in DelDOT's right-of-way. He did mention that there will be a standard for off-road facilities,

for example Sussex Co. entrance permits for long term easements of eventual developments. Tim suggested having a bond or a trust set up for long-term easements that they can pay into for the future.

#### Bike Network

Don said Tom Hartley had volunteered to head up a project to mark up a preferred bike route in for Kent and Sussex Counties. Tom remembered that Liz Holloway, former DelDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, had a plan to get all even numbered routes shouldered, and the way the roads actually work out, that approach would be the best for a bike route. He also suggested that the Bike Rt. 1 from Rehoboth to Ocean City be scheduled for regular sweeping because the rest of the routes he looked into were pretty clear of debris. The only suggestion he could make was to have DelDOT not use tar and chip any more. Calvin asked how often roads were scheduled to be swept now. Tim P said it's currently once or twice a year, but the hope is to have the bike network swept four times a year plus get appropriate striping for bike lanes. Calvin said most roads should be swept after the winter months anyway, but once a year was still good.

Don did mention that Secretary Hayward III implied that he would be more freely using bike striping. Dave P. cautioned that DelDOT hesitates to designate a bike lane if it doesn't fit the criteria. Tim thought if bikes are going to be there anyway it would be good to let the vehicles know that the bicycles could be there even if it doesn't fit the standards.

The other suggestion Tom H made was to work on Rt. 9.

#### Indian River Inlet Bridge

Calvin had been to a previous DBC meeting looking for comments on the Indian River Inlet Bridge and gave the Council an update of the project. He commented that the deceleration and acceleration lanes had very lengthy striping. The project was to start construction in the fall and he would like to know if the DBC had any comments on the revised plans.

Tom H. suggested allowing room for cyclists through the construction phase. He also commented that the 5-foot bike lane would be shared by not only cyclists, but roller-bladers and pedestrians, some of which would be moving in the opposite direction and he didn't think that was much room. His other suggestion was to stripe the conflict points as pedestrian crossings with diagonal stripes because the striping was more visual. The more paint and visual markings the better.

Amy asked if there was to be signage to let the cyclists know where they were supposed to go, maybe naming it "Ocean View Walkway" or something like it so the cyclists and pedestrians would know where to go.

Calvin said he would talk to the environmental people and see if there was enough room to make the 5ft lane an 8ft lane where pedestrians and cyclists would be sharing space.

**He then asked if the Council would officially support the design of the bike lane being to the outside of the deceleration/acceleration lanes as long as the striping was added at the crossing point. The Council agreed they would**

**support it.** Tim did ask if lowering the speed limit had ever been considered. Calvin said it had but was decided that it wasn't practical.

#### Traffic Calming

Don thought that since traffic calming is being used more and more often, there was a need to make sure the traffic calming measures used are also usable for cyclists. He referred to the bulb-outs used on Harmony road as a case where cyclists now have a more difficult time traveling around and Centreville is a case of cyclist friendly traffic calming. He has a meeting scheduled for next week with Michael Sommers of DelDOT and representatives from White Clay Bicycle Club to discuss concerns and make sure traffic calming is in line with the bike policy.

Don then asked if the Council if they thought it was a good idea to write to Secretary Hayward expressing the Council's concerns with traffic calming. Don asked for a motion from the Council, Fred B was the first to motion and Dana seconded the motion, which was then passed unanimously.

#### Bike Month

The bike month meetings would be held in New Castle County unless that was a problem for anyone. The legislative bike to work ride was tentatively scheduled for the second Wednesday in May. Don would like to have as many activities for this bike month as possible. He also said Heather Dunigan, formally Ehrlich, from WILMAPCO has volunteered to help. The first meeting should be held soon. Dave P. volunteered to help design the graphics for the bike to work T-shirts.

#### Effective Cycling

The second course for DelDOT designers and planners might be able to take place this spring. Don had wanted to speak to Joe about scheduling a time.

### III. "Task Updates"

#### "Safe Routes to School"

Dave gave the members a copy of the draft guidelines for the program and extended an invitation to the next meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Tim gave a brief description of the program and said that two years ago the Governor sponsored legislation to form a program for Delaware. Seven other states already have programs in place.

#### Rail Trails

Tim gave a brief update of the different projects:

New Castle: DelDOT funded the New Castle section

Pomeroy: plans are going forward

Lewes/Rehoboth: the Lewes junction opened

Don said there was a new initiative from the Delaware Greenways. He and Tim were going to attend a meeting with representatives of Senators Biden and Carper and Representative Castle regarding using the recreation trails at the C/D Canal. The

project would be similar to the one at Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Hopefully such a project would have support from the General Assembly.

IV. New Business

Fred informed the Council that there would be no Walk Across DE this year. He also said the DHSS "Kids Walk to School" program was having difficulty getting funding. The problem is the budget for this fiscal year was agreed on before school was in session so they have to wait until next years budget to request funds. They are trying to work something out.

Dana brought up that she feels Rt. 26 from Rt.1 close to Millville going east/west is awful for cyclists. She feels that there should maybe be more signage.

Don let the Council know that the White Clay Bicycle Club was having a Tour de France announcer at their annual banquet and if anyone was interested in attending to let him know.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.**